Rajasthan in the special category States so that it could avail of special funding from the Government of India under the AIBP. The State was advised to approach the Planning Commission, in the matter.

Recommendations of National Water Development Agency

1747. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a request of the State Government of Rajasthan for diverting the flood waters of the Ganges to the arid areas of the State has been under consideration and pending with the Ganga Flood Control Board;

(b) whether the Board at their meeting held on 16th June, 2000 decided to consider next the recommendations regarding surplus water expected from National Water Development Agency who were carrying out independent Water Balance Studies; and

(c) if so, the details of the recommendations, if received, and the action taken thereon, or the present status of the studies and the time-frame fixed therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) In the fourteenth meeting of the Ganga Flood Control Board held on 16th June, 2000, it was decided that the National Water Development Agency may complete the studies regarding the feasibility of diverting surplus flood waters of the Ganga to the Yamuna for utilization in Haryana, Rajasthan and Delhi and come up with the recommendations.

(c) While studying the proposals for various water transfer links under Himalayan Component of the National Perspective Plan, NWDA has carried out the prefeasibility studies of links involving transfer of surplus waters of tribuatries of Ganga, to benefit the drouhgt-prone areas of Haryana, Rajasthan and Gujarat. NWDA has further taken up field surveys and investigations for preparation of the feasibility reports of the links by the end of Tenth Plan.

Completion of Brutang Irrigation Project in Orissa

1748. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Brutang Irrigation Project in Nayagarh district, Orissa was pending for the clearance of the Central Government;